

# BLUE GRASS BLADE

WE AIM TO CUT DOWN ERROR AND ESTABLISH TRUTH.

A. T. Parker  
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## VICE PRESIDENT FAIRBANKS

### COMES FORTH AS ANOTHER POLITICO- RELIGIO-LICK-SPITTLE.

He Has a Burning Ambition to be Made  
President and is Going Around Among  
the Ultra Pious, Preaching and  
Praying in an Effort to  
Appear Good.

Foundation for Taft's Candidacy Laid Three  
Years Ago in Rome, and He is Now  
Dosing the Papal Patient, with  
More Soothing Syrup.

(By Dr. J. B. Wilson.)  
Some time ago I acquainted the readers of the Blade with the religious antics of one, W. H. Taft, of how he had laid the foundation of his candidacy three years ago by going to Rome as American Ambassador to the Pope, thus being first to trample upon the Constitution, by disregarding and defying a long established and vital principle of our government; of how he had to get down on his knees to the old Scarlet Lady and kiss Fisherman Peter's ring, and this is just what Taft did; of how he connived with Roosevelt and other leading Republicans to pay the Pope \$7,500,000 for the Friar lands, evidently as a bribe for the Catholic vote, which Roosevelt got, and but for which he would not have been elected.

Everything goes to show that in taking a part in this un-American and treasonable intrigue, Taft was bending fences for himself. He was looking ahead for favors in the next campaign, and he is getting them. Has it ever occurred to you just why Taft should be so universally popular all at once? What has he done to take rank among the great men of this country? He has never been elected to a single office of the many he has occupied. He has never been appointed. He has never stood on his own merits and went out to battle for position, but rather has been lifted into places of power. He has been fortunate in being the father's son and having a willing coterie of college friends, to boost him along. He is big and ponderous, but not brilliant. With the help of others, he has pushed himself politically ahead. But nothing he has done has contributed so much to his political advancement, as his scheming to the Pope, and tipping him with that \$7,500,000.

Do you know that nearly every great newspaper in the country of both parties, are either under control of, or influenced by the Roman hierarchy? Well, they are. They have Catholic editors, reporters and stockholders, who influence what is inserted in their columns, and of all the rascality of the church, very little trickles through them. It is these editors and correspondents who are now howling loud and long for Taft. And why shouldn't they?

Are you aware that just three weeks ago, Taft allowed \$2,000,000 more to the Jesuits on Philippine property? Who got this \$2,000,000, the Jesuits of the Philippines, or the head of the Jesuits in Rome, was not made known to the public. The claim was so very quietly advanced, and the allowance of it, so very quietly made that only a few papers in the country mentioned it. Not a kick came from one of them. Congress, it seems, had nothing to do with it. It was all up to Taft. And isn't this a very propitious time to make a present of \$2,000,000 to the Jesuits? It won't operate against Taft's nomination will it? And all these millions go to the very power that blessed every Spanish soldier sent out to fight us.

If Congress were asked to appropriate \$2,000,000 for some worthy American institution would it slip through so quietly that no one would know anything about it?

The Democrats know all about this graft, and bribe for the Catholic vote in the next election. Why didn't they raise a howl about it? Well, right here is shown the most disgusting and contemptible part of the whole affair.

The Democrats while being aware of the graft, were afraid to say a word, for fear that they would be regarded as anti-Catholic, and so lose out on the few Catholics votes they still hold. Not a squeal would they make. I was told by a Catholic, who thought me one, that the church has claims of \$20,000,000 more which it intends to present from time to time. It is evident that they are using campaign occasions to get it. Isn't it about time we were putting Americans on guard in this country?

Republicans have the gall to reach down in the public treasury and purloin millions for the purchase of the Catholic vote, and Democrats have the cowardice

toboggan; that it has about struck bottom because of the nuisance it has become to Christians themselves, who have grown weary of opening their houses and supplying hash for a whole week to these Jesus screeching youngsters.

The statistics given out by the churches themselves, show that less than one-third of the population are enrolled church members. One-third of these are the names of backsliders and of dead people. Mr. Fairbanks own church, the Methodist, shows but one conversion for every two churches, during the last year.

Yet Fairbanks says "this is and it is to be a Christian nation." His jolly may and may not lead the howling Methodists to forget about Fairbanks' cock-tail banquet. Among the American born, the Catholic church is losing faster than it is gaining, and is increasing only by immigration. So perfect is its organization however that it is still a strong political power.

What chance has Fairbanks against Taft in playing the hypocritical religious racket? Fairbanks didn't get to go to Rome, and give the Pope \$7,500,000, and to the Jesuits \$2,000,000. Therefore there isn't a Romanist raising a howl for him. He stands no more chance along side of Taft and Rome, than a snowball in hell.

And what is he gaining by soft-soaping a lot of old maids and shell-baiters, who, with all their raving, succeeded in making but one conversion to every two churches in a year? Wouldn't he be faring better if he kept his mouth shut, and maintained his own intellectual and self respect?

Gave—an hypocrite! especially of the pious brand.

If Fairbanks honestly thinks "this is and is to be a Christian nation" how can any Jew or liberal minded man vote for him? If he is just soft-soaping the soft-headed sheep of the Methodist pasturage, what reliance can be placed in him on any vital issue? A man who is not true to himself, who is dishonorable in getting office, will be very apt to be dishonorable in filling that office.

A man who will get down and belly-wiggle up to the Pope and kiss his hand in order to get office, will kiss his behind when he gets in office. He'll have to, for they have the goods on him, and once having prostituted his self respect they own and control him.

Taft is the Catholic candidate; that it is not apparent on the surface. He has paid for the favor of Rome, and Rome wants him, because a weakling Protestant is of more use to the church than a Catholic could be.

Is it possible that the Republican party hasn't any better political timber of American growth than these two blatant, unprincipled hypocrites?

"The strength, honor and perpetuity of this country," says Fairbanks "depends more upon the Christian churches than all other influences combined, and many times multiplied."

To Fairbanks, science, art, music, medicine, law, commerce and human culture, invention, education and human nature, are inconsequential beside the influence of the Christian superstition which is day by day begging to live, which is corrupting politicians making liars and hypocrites and thieves of them, for gain and power, which uses the scare of hell, to frighten ill-gotten gain out of the pockets of rascally millionaires—which is ever down on its belly wiggling and squirming before fashion and style—which is spending an immense energy to convert the heathen, while Christian children at home are being stunted in mind and body in the factory and the mine, and while millions of Christian reared girls right at home, employed by Christian employers at three to five dollars a week, are compelled to prostitute themselves to gain a miserable living.

Oh yes! the Christian church is one hell of a support to "the strength and honor and perpetuity of American institutions—more than everything else many times multiplied," according to Cocktail Charley. The only institution of the church is a support to itself, and the American people are fast finding this out, and this is the reason, that at this moment on Sunday morning while I am writing the street cars are packed with people breaking for the country—thousands going to the playgrounds and fishing camps, and green woods, where one is going to church to hear a preacher bellow about a lot of ignorant old Jews who lived 2,000 years ago, or a priest in his plumage strutting and gibbering a lot of hocus-pecus and hog Latin. Who'd a thought that Fairbanks was such a befuddled old fool?

Let it be understood that this is a non partisan article, and not in opposition to the Republican party. Rather, it is for the party's good. It has some great and good men in its ranks, who are above the intellectual prostitution, and seeking exchange of patriotism for superstition possessed by Fairbanks and Taft, and I would like to see them trotted out.

What I want to see each party do is to put to the front a statesman, a man of honor of principle, in which owns his own soul, a true American, a patriot, a humanitarian to the core.

As to Fairbanks, and Taft, my position may be better illustrated with a story.

I wait on a family that lives next door to a Methodist church. The mother belongs to it and is a regular Jesus screecher. The girls also belong, but are not so demonstrative. The father and his boys, are brand that have not yet been snatched from the burning.

The father told me once that he had lived so long next to that church, and had observed so much, that he didn't want any of it in his, although he was not disposed to be against religion.

Well, last Sunday morning I was

called to see the gentleman, and found him in bed, before I left the boys came in, and asked if he cared if they went up the river to spend the day with some "oh, go ahead," said the old man, friends at a fishing camp.

I don't give a d—n what you do, so you don't jine meetin'."

Likewise, I don't give the same article what the politics of liberals may be, but for goodness sake, don't go off and jine either Holy Father Taft's or Parson Fairbanks' meetin'.

If either should get the nomination, you have the old serpent of superstition to deal with. Plant your heels upon its ugly head. M—h it flat.

Eternal Vigilance Necessary.

Maybe some of you think there is no alarm and all this amounts to but little. Well, then, read the following Associated Press dispatch, cut from to-days paper.

Satelli as Eminent Protector of the American Press.

NEW YORK, August 8.—Rev. James B. Deagher, President of the Christian Press Association, an organization composed of more than 1,400 Bishops and priests scattered throughout the country, has just received word from Cardinal Merry del Val, Papal secretary of state at Rome, that the Pope has designated Cardinal Francis Satelli as eminent protector of the association.

The association, which has headquarters in this city, was formed by the direction of the papal delegate in 1893 and has for its object the publishing of works upholding religion and the government against radical attacks of all sorts.

There are 1,400 bishops and priests in this country, headed by Cardinal Satelli in Rome, secretly banded together with the object of publishing works upholding the Christian superstition and monarchical principle, and joining this government against radical attacks of all sort.

Rome is making her last stand right here. She is working night and day secretly and stealthily. She has already political control of every great municipality.

She is making presidents. She made McKinley. She made Roosevelt. She will make Taft if she can. If she can make presidents, she can easily control the postoffice department, and place a censorship over the mails. She has already partly succeeded in this. Do you think the efforts of these 1,400 influential bishops and priests, headed by Cardinal Satelli in Rome, will amount to nothing? Don't fool yourselves. They are working while you are sleeping, and radical opinion of all sorts is the game they are after. They forever stand or fall right here. They must become a power here to off-set their

power in Europe, and regain their equilibrium. They can only accomplish this inactivity and sleepiness on our part.

Don't underestimate their power. Organization is what makes them perilous. Do any of you imagine that there is a newspaper in this country which publishes what I am writing here?

Is there not one would dare do it? Why? Because of this power to which so many people are blind, but which, politicians are cognizant, and which they bow.

Every American should wake up to the corrupting influence in the body politic—not only to the Catholic but to Protestantism as well, who is just as starchy in his grab for graft. This grime "is and is to be."

A Secular Government.

Spite of the Hannas, the Irelands, the McKineys, the Roosevelts, the Mens, the Gibbons, the Rockefeller, (Satelli's the Taft's the Fairbanks, all the other prostituted consciences manifest the politics and congressional national capitol. It will never go to kingcraft and priestcraft, no ner how insidious they work to undermine it.

A Catholic church, in order to maintain the position of a world-power, must be impregnable at its headquarters.

Rome Tottering.

"A Trip to Rome," I told you of the great Freethought Congress of 1904 would have in liberating people of Rome and Italy. I told you of the great space given by the Italian papers of the proceedings of the Congress, and of how the reports of Rome papers were copied all Italy. I told you of the effect of the Italian people from the clutches of superstition, and prophesied from that day on life would be given to the fought propaganda, and the people would assert themselves as never before.

As it has come to pass. A dispatch yesterday's paper states that Pope feared to permit a public celebration in honor of his coronation, lest the cardinals be insulted in the street. All over Italy there is an anti-religious crusade. Even Cardinal Merry del Val, Papal secretary of State, who in his cage, was surrounded by his working men and hoisted at, and if their contempt for him.

His monks and priests are regarded as enemies of education progress. Reverence for them is declining. The monks of one monastery were cleaned out because of their immoral practices. The church inherited right at home, morally, and politically. The Pope, if, is cartooned, wearing the ears of a jackass, and the papers spread out a news stands all over Rome.

Illustrated Roman paper, recently came, depicts the Pope dressed up in a fat lubberly boy. A peasant cut in a grassy field has caught him and thrown him across his knees.

spanking his pious posterior. The fence a group of Italian boys are splitting themselves up at the predicament of Papa.

The meaning of the picture is even the Italian peasant woman is

waking up, and is declaring her own freedom from the monstrous clutch that has kept her ignorant and degraded for centuries. Now, with all the antagonism and more, right at its headquarters, it appears strange that in its enlightened and progressive country this venomous old reptile should be petted as it is, and fed right out of the public crib.

Well, it is only a question of time till Rome makes herself so offensive here that she'll raise a great big rumpus—and Reason and Rome at last will clash. There will be a big war of words, and Rome will take a political back seat and keep it, as she is now having to do sitting on that ancient rock, which an old lying Jew whose first and last name was Pete, declared could not be prevailed against even by the gates of hell.

But alas! alas! It hath come to pass, that even woman sasses, and spank the Pope when he gets on the grass.

When Catholic reared people themselves, right at home, thus cartoon and defy the Pope, the ultimate end of Catholicism as a political force all over the world may be plainly seen. Remember the antagonism to the Pope in Italy is from those reared under his own care, and if any good Catholic should read this, before getting angry he should ask himself—What is wrong with the church, that Catholic reared people right in the holy city are arrayed against it? Don't go to damning infidels, for the fight there is a family fight.

Not only are the common people arrayed against the church, but also many of the clergy. Some are demanding that the priests be allowed to marry. Besides a great many authorities among the priests as well as among the Catholic laity are demanding that the books they write shall not be condemned by the Index Purgatorius, but that every author shall first have the right of defending his book, and the privilege of appeal.

So very strong is this demand by Catholic authors, and so very powerful this liberal movement among Catholic clergy and laity, that the Pope and college of cardinals have just recently taken action to suppress it, by coming out in a syllabus of sixty-five articles, opposing every liberal and advanced proposition of the progressive party, and sticking close and fast to the ancient faith of the fathers.

Since Catholics themselves are fighting the church they should find no fault with liberals in telling about it. They are not only losing ground at home, but are losing all over the world except in England and America, and their growth here is largely a matter of immigration. It is only a question of time till they will be falling out among themselves here as they are in Spain, France and Italy; but before this reaction takes place, they are going to make a powerful political stand, and give this country considerable trouble.

But the Christian superstition will never be able to get the world to go backward. The ultimate stand to be taken will be a union of all the Christian forces against reason and freethought. This power must be met by brave determined men and women. There is much fighting ahead of us, and there will be heroic spirits rise up to lead our forces as there has always been, and the future is ours.

## SOME BOOK REVIEWS

(By Dr. J. B. Wilson.)

Book-reviewing is a profession all of itself. I have had no practice in this line, and this is not to be regarded even as an attempt. I call the attention of the Blade readers here to some books, because of their merits, their authors having no knowledge of my intent. Since books form the character of the age, and since books of Liberal and scientific character, should, in my opinion, be the basis of thought and progression, they should widely be made known. It is with pleasure therefore that I review the following books, compiled or written by men of mature reflection, and possessing minds of uncommon excellence.

Who reads them need not live on the marsh or in the mist. The slopes and the ridges invite him.

Views of Religion.

This book is a collection of short sayings on religion, by the eminent men and women of the world, from the remotest times down to the present. It includes every phase of learning, logic, wit and philosophy, the clergy of all religions occupying their share of space. The collection is compiled by Dr. Rufus K. Noyes, and published by L. K. Washburn, 50 Chambers street, Boston. It has 756 pages and is printed on the best paper. It is simply a bonanza mine of opinion. Over 3,000 persons are quoted, giving from one to thirty quotations from each. It has been a titanic job to gather all these quotations, and I congratulate Dr. Noyes upon his masterful effort. I wouldn't be without this book, for to me it is a constant delight to rummage through it. When I get brain-fagged and don't know what to do with myself, I pick it up and find pleasure and rest. Until reading it, I was not conscious of the wide-spread liberalism existing among the great names familiar to us, both of ancient and modern times. It is an eye-opener from beginning to end.

Blade readers will be interested in knowing that quite a number of its contributors are quoted from, I will give some of them.

(Continued on fourth page)

## WORLDS

### CRISIS IS UPON US

Reform Must Begin in the Church  
and the Bible can Only be  
Saved by New Construction.

NONE CAN LOVE AND  
REVERE BIBLE GOD

(Contributed)

(Continued from last week.)

Faith is a confiding trust, which no person can have before he repents for his sins, i. e., ceases to confide and trust that sin will give more happiness than will a Christian life. We can not confide in both at the same time, in our sinful disobedience and in a life of Christian obedience. We can not serve two masters in full at once. Belief is a dead faith made alive by works of repentance. Faith is like an anchor sure. "Faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ." Whatsoever is not of faith is sin. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." We walk by faith not by sight. "By grace ye are saved through faith." "Received the end of your faith the salvation of your souls." "Ask in faith nothing wavering." "Being justified by faith we have peace through our Lord Jesus Christ." Faith in God has wrought righteousness, subdued kingdoms, quenched the violence of fire, stopped the mouths of lions, put flight armies of aliens and healed the sick. Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua and Elijah lived by faith.

Now, "the heavens (religiously) and earth (politically) are passing away." "As a vesture shalt thou fold them up and they shall be changed." "Wherefore we look for a new heaven (Christianity) and a new earth (republic) wherein dwell righteousness." "He that sat upon the throne said behold I make all things new." Oh ye of little faith. There are many of such little faith that they declare that Jesus is really unwilling and unable to destroy monarchical and despotic governments and in their stead to establish true and stable republics; that he is unable to build his one church on the Bible alone without the need of creed books, confessions and disciplines, and that Christ is never to become "head over all things to the church."

They manifest their unbelief by putting their hands (creeds) to help sustain the ark of the covenant as did Uzzah of old, and like him they fall dead in the presence of the God whom they do not trust. Jesus said, "Ye shall know them by their fruits."—Matthew 6:16.

The church fathers lacked faith in Christ as an all-sufficient leader, able to preserve peace and fraternity among his followers, else they would not have established so many tests of fellowship; and the church leaders of the present still show a lack of loyalty and faith towards Jesus by perpetuating human standards of fellowship among the brethren and by rejecting the true gospel standards, viz.: "By their fruits ye shall know them."

This folly is largely responsible for the infidelity of times. Thomas Paine and Robert Ingersoll are direct products of the repulsive and unreasonable teachings of their religious associates.

Oh, that preachers had sufficient faith and trust that God was wise enough to plan the conversion of the world; that he established the church as he desired it to be, that he asks men to unite as Christians, not as theologians; that Christ was sent by his Father with all power to save the world; that the Bible is a sufficient rule of faith and practice; and that God truly loves men so as to save them finally with not one left to advocate the cause of sin; that true soul Christianity is a sufficient preparation for church membership and for a heavenly inheritance.

To turn back. "They that turn many to righteousness shine as the stars forever and ever."—Daniel 12:3. "Repent and turn." "Repent ye therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out." "The conversion of the Gentiles caused great joy."—Acts. 15: 3. "The law of the

(Continued on Page 4)